

APPLICANTS: Magen, Micha
SERIAL NO.: 09/976,298
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REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicant asserts that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-27 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-8 have been amended.

Claims 9-16 have been canceled without prejudice. In making this cancellation without prejudice, Applicant reserves all rights in these claims to file divisional and/or continuation patent applications.

New claims 17-27 have been added in order to further define what the Applicant considers to be the invention.

Applicant respectfully asserts that no new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that claims 4-6 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In view of the discussion below, which reflects Applicant's position that amended claims 4-6 are patentable, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claims 4-6 are allowable in their present dependent form.

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CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §102

Claims 1, 2, 3, 9, 12, 13 and 15 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Kingsbury (US Patent Number 4179670). Specifically, the Examiner contended that Kingsbury teaches frequency dividing a high-frequency clock signal into a divided frequency; and further dividing the divided frequency into another divided frequency in accordance with a data input.

Amended independent claim 1 recites "dividing a high-frequency clock signal into a divided frequency signal in accordance with a data input" and "dividing the divided frequency signal into a further divided frequency signal in accordance with the data input". Applicant respectfully asserts that this language is not anticipated by Kingsbury. Specifically, Kingsbury does not teach or fairly suggest dividing a high-frequency signal and then further dividing the divided signal, wherein both divisions are based on input data.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of amended claim 1 under 35 USC §102(b) be withdrawn.

Furthermore, it is respectfully asserted that the distinguishing features of independent claim 1, as discussed above, would not have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person skilled in the art, in view of Kingsbury, alone or in combination with any other cited references, including the Foroudi et al. reference discussed below in connection with claims 10 and 16; and/or the Huges reference discussed below in connection with claims 8 and 11. Therefore, it is respectfully asserted that independent claim 1 is patentable, and thus allowable, over the prior art references on record.

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Amended claims 2 and 3 are each directly dependent from independent claim 1 and incorporate all the elements of this claim. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2, 3 are patentable at least for the reasons set forth above.

As claims 9, 12, 13, and 15 have been cancelled without prejudice, these rejections are now moot.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §103

Claims 7 and 14 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kingsbury. Specifically, the Examiner contended that the flip-flops recited in claims 7 and 14 are rendered obvious by Kingsbury in combination with devices known in the art.

Amended claim 7 is indirectly dependent from independent claim 1 and incorporates all the elements of this claim. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 7 is patentable at least for the reasons set forth above.

As claim 14 has been cancelled without prejudice, the rejection of claim 14 is now moot.

Claims 10 and 16 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kingsbury, and further in view of Foroudi et al. ("Low Voltage low-power topology for high-speed applications"). Specifically, the Examiner contended that it would be obvious to a man skilled in the art to use a dual modulus frequency divider, as described by Foroudi et al., as a frequency divider.

As claims 10 and 16 have been cancelled without prejudice, the rejection of claims 10 and 16 is now moot.

Claims 8 and 11 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kingsbury, and further in view of Huges (US Patent Number 4315166). Specifically, the

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Examiner contended that it would be obvious to a man skilled in the art to use a D-type flip flop, as described by Huges, as the frequency divider.

Amended claim 8 is directly dependent from independent claim 1 and incorporates all the elements of this claim. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 8 is patentable at least for the reasons set forth above.

As claim 11 has been cancelled without prejudice, the rejection of claim 11 is now moot.

Claims 4-6 were objected to as being dependant upon a rejected base claim. Amended claims 4-6 are each dependent, directly or indirectly, from independent claim 1 and incorporate all the elements of this claim. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 4-6 are patentable at least for the reasons set forth above.

Remarks to Newly Added Claims

Applicant has added new claims 17-27 for the purpose of clarifying distinguishing features of the claimed subject matter.

New independent claims 17 and 26 each recite "dividing a high-frequency clock signal into a divided frequency signal in accordance with a data input" and "dividing the divided frequency signal into a further divided frequency signal in accordance with the data input". As discussed above in relation to independent claim 1, Applicant respectfully asserts that this language is not anticipated by Kingsbury. Furthermore, it is respectfully asserted that this language would not have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person skilled in the art, in view of Kingsbury, alone or in combination with any other cited references, including the Foroudi et al. reference discussed above in connection with claims 10 and 16; and/or the Huges reference discussed above in connection with claims 8 and 11. Therefore, it is respectfully asserted that new independent claims 17 and 26 are patentable, and thus allowable, over the prior

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art references on record.

New claims 18-25 are dependent, directly or indirectly, from new independent claim 17 and incorporate all the elements of this claim. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that new claims 18-25 are patentable at least for the reasons set forth above.

New claim 27 is directly dependent from new independent claim 26 and incorporates all the elements of this claim. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that new claim 27 is patentable at least for the reasons set forth above.

It is respectfully submitted that the new claims do not add new matter.

CONCLUSION

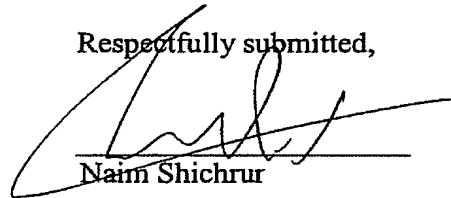
The present communication is intended to be fully responsive to all points of rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested. It is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Prompt notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

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Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Please charge any fees associated with this paper to deposit account No. 05-0649.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Naim Shichrur', is written over a horizontal line.

Naim Shichrur

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Dated: December 28, 2004

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